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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 25, 2002**

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# **ILLEGAL ALIEN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS FOR ASSAULTING BORDER PATROL AGENTS AND FOR BEING IN THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY**

**TUCSON, ARIZONA** –The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced today that JESUS MURILLO-CONTRERAS, 38, of Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, was sentenced today to 10 years imprisonment, by United States District Court Judge John M. Roll, in Tucson, Arizona.

Murillo-Contreras was found guilty by a jury on February 20, 2001, on all counts contained in a superseding indictment which charged him with three counts of assault on a federal officer and one count of illegal re-entry.

The evidence at trial proved that while U.S. Border Patrol agents were performing an inspection of the Grand Avenue tunnel in Nogales, Arizona, they encountered a group of suspected undocumented aliens. When the agents attempted to apprehend the group, everyone in the group, except the defendant, fled back into Mexico. While the three agents attempted to arrest the defendant, the defendant fought vigorously with the agents, dragging them with him while attempting to flee back to Mexico. During the scuffle, the defendant managed to get his hand on one agent's weapon, which was holstered, and was able to unsnap the

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holster. The agent immediately gained control of the weapon and secured it. The defendant bit one of the agents in the forearm and attempted to punch the agents, before they were able to handcuff and secure him.

The defendant is an undocumented alien with an extensive criminal record and numerous prior deportations.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Immigration and Naturalization Service and U.S. Border Patrol.

The prosecution was handled by Raquel Arellano, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-98-1544-TUC-JMR  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2002-014

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